

IRA MERRITT HEADS SURVEY IN POINSETT

Poinsett Co. Aug / 38

Ira W. Merritt, who conducted the mineral survey in Lee County, is conducting a similar geological search in Poinsett County. Mr. Merritt began his duties last week. He is stationed at Harrisburg.

The geological surveys are being conducted in all parts of the state where there are unnatural formations in an attempt to discover additional mineral deposits.

Survey For Minerals Being Made Here

~~Poinsett Co. Aug. 1938~~

The State Geological Survey is conducting a state wide survey to discover the undeveloped minerals. Poinsett County was opened July 5 with Ira W. Merritt as County Supervisor. Mr. Merritt was transferred here from Lee County where he conducted a similar survey of Crowley Ridge in that County. His office is located in the Court House.

Mr. Merritt is assisted in this valuable project by the following personnel: Chesney "Bo" Pugh, Harold Caplinger, Ben C. Harris, Zenas H. Turner, Joe D. Merritt, Mack Denton, Robert B. Ainsworth, Louis C. Dean and Miss Joyce Hall, Secretary.

Seven more men have been requisitioned but have not been selected. When these are started to work the last of the week, the crew of sixteen workers will complete a payroll of approximately \$500 which will be spent chiefly in this county.

The principal interest of the W. P. A. in the project is to give relief through the intelligent spending of Federal funds. Our interest is to secure information that will be of permanent value to the people of Arkansas.

Up to date sand and gravel, lignite, and white clay deposits have been located. At the present time they are working three miles east of White Hall.

GEOLOGISTS WATCH MINERAL STATE SURVEY HERE

Poinsett Co 9/12/38-38

The State Mineral Survey has accomplished a great deal during the short time it has been in progress in Arkansas. Actual field work was first begun March 1, 1938. Of the 52 counties to be surveyed either in part or whole, covering an area of 35,515 square miles, 1470 or 5,192 square miles had been completed up to June 29th which comprises the work done in 32 counties being surveyed at the present time.

Samples have been taken from each section worked which are indexed, classified, and analyzed. There have been 2,909 samples sent to the State office. These samples as well as other materials are being tested in laboratories by the State.

There were 528 people on the payroll of the State Mineral Survey for pay period ending June 29, which represented a total labor cost of \$12,032.00 or 27,133 man hours. During its existence the labor cost has equalled \$94,977.87, or 206,807 man hours. The average cost per square mile is approximately \$15.60.

The contributions have varied with the counties. Up to July 14th the total contributions amounted to \$7,488.59.

The past week several state supervisors and geologist from Little Rock visited the office here at the Court House in Poinsett County where Ira W. Merritt is co-supervisor. They were Mr. R. C. Beckstrom, State Supervisor; Dr. George C. Branner, State Geologist, and Mr. R. E. Vandruff, Assistant State Supervisor and Geologist. They were here to supply information and show appreciation for cooperation in Poinsett County.

Poinsett